

The 1979 NCCS also suggests that approximately 5.6 percent of North Carolina's adult household population have a neurological disorder--mainly blackouts and fainting as shown in Table II. This percentage compares to 6.5 percent in 1978. In the 1979 survey, the Cardinal HSA experienced the highest prevalence of neurological disorders.

Table II  
Percentage of Adults Reporting Neurological Disorders  
North Carolina Citizen Survey, 1978 and 1979

Neurological Disorder	North Carolina		Western		Piedmont		Southern Piedmont		Capital		Cardinal		Eastern	
	1978	1979	1978	1979	1978	1979	1978	1979	1978	1979	1978	1979	1978	1979
Fainting Spells	3.5	2.4	4.5	2.4	3.1	2.3	1.7	1.9	2.5	1.3	4.5	4.8	4.6	1.6
Blackouts	4.3	2.9	6.2	3.5	4.5	3.0	3.4	0.8	2.0	1.3	6.4	4.8	3.8	4.0
Seizure Disorders	0.9	0.9	1.7	2.0	1.4	0.0	0.0	1.1	0.5	0.7	0.6	0.5	1.1	0.8
Epilepsy	0.7	0.4	0.0	0.0	2.1	0.0	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.8	0.8
Other Similar Disorders	1.6	1.1	0.4	1.6	1.4	1.5	0.8	0.8	2.0	2.0	0.0	1.4	4.2	0.0

Note: Percentages are computed by including unknowns in the denominator. Due to this treatment of unknowns, percentages may not agree with those released by the Office of State Budget and Management.

About 12 percent of households in 1979 included one or more persons with a physical handicap. This figure compares with previous results of 14 percent in 1978 and 15 percent in 1977. In 1979, the percentages ranged from about 9 percent in the Capital and Eastern HSA's to 19 percent in the Cardinal. As in previous years, a majority of households with handicapped members were of low income and the most prevalent handicapping conditions were visual impairments and deformities.

In 1979, about 15 percent of sampled adults had a physical, mental or other health condition which had lasted six months or longer and which limited them in some way. Table III shows the percentages of adults reporting varying degrees of limitation. Overall, the Cardinal HSA had the highest percentage of limiting health conditions with 14 percent of adults reportedly unable to work at a job because of their health. This percentage compares with a low of 7.3 percent in the Capital HSA.

Table III  
Percentage of Adults Reporting Limiting Conditions  
North Carolina Citizen Survey, 1979

Nature of Limiting Health Condition	North Carolina	Western	Piedmont	Southern Piedmont	Capital	Cardinal	Eastern
Limits Kind or Amount of Work Done at Job	13.9	12.1	13.2	14.1	12.7	15.9	15.4
Prevents Working at a Job	10.1	9.4	9.8	9.2	7.3	14.0	10.7
Prevents or Limits Use of Public Transportation	3.4	3.1	4.1	3.8	1.3	4.3	2.8
Limits Access to Public Buildings	2.7	2.0	2.6	3.4	2.0	4.3	2.0
Limits Access to Suitable Housing	1.8	1.2	1.9	2.7	2.0	1.9	1.2

Note: Percentages are computed by including unknowns in the denominator. Due to this treatment of unknowns, percentages may not agree with those released by the Office of State Budget and Management.

## Health Care Resources

According to the last three surveys, the main place adults get medical care is a doctor's office or clinic. In 1979, about 77 percent relied mainly on this medical provider. A large proportion of adults--16 percent in 1979--use hospital emergency rooms or outpatient clinics as their main source of health care. This source was most utilized in the Capital HSA--by 25 percent of survey respondents.